

REMARKS

The Office examined claims 1-63 and rejected same. With this paper, claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 14-17, 22, 24, 29, 42, 44, 49 and 63 are amended, none are canceled, and new claim 64 is added.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claim 1-63 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Desai *et al* (U.S. Patent No. 6,820,204, Desai hereinafter). In the rejected claims, claims 22, 42 and 63 are independent.

Desai teaches an information exchange system that includes a storage system adapted to store profile data for a plurality of users. The information exchange system is connected to one or more registered users through a communications network, allowing a registered user to access, edit and manage the registered user's profile data through a network device. Desai teaches that a user's profile information comprises attributes. The registered user's attributes may be stored in pre-defined data fields created by the information exchange system and its applications, or be stored in user-defined data fields created by the user. One or more of these attributes may be logically grouped into views. The registered user may selectively grant access to each view of the profile to one or more third parties, such as friends or family members. Preferably, the registered user's profile data is kept private by the information exchange system until the registered user provides access to a view of the stored data (col. 3, line 42 - col. 4, line 7).

Apparently, the Examiner equals the "user profile" of Desai with the "presence information" of the present invention, and equals the "information exchange system" of Desai with the "presence information management system" of the present invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the assertion.

The user profile information concerned by Desai includes a user's personal identification information, such as telephone numbers, home address, email address and credit card numbers (col. 1, lines 39-45, col. 9, lines 6-8), and the user's statistical

information of online activities, such as places visited, pages read and items purchased online (col. 4, lines 11-12, col. 9, lines 32-36). These information items may be regarded as **static** profile entries, *i.e.* they are entered by the user or applications associated with the information exchange system at certain times when the user profile is created or updated.

The "presence information" in the current application, on the other hand, is known in the art as including both **dynamic** and **static** information of a user. In fact, the originally filed specification describes the presence information as containing various dynamic information or status of a particular mobile or fixed network user (paragraphs [0004] and [0137] of the application publication US 2003/0037103). Particularly, the presence information includes dynamic information such as current status of a user or a client device of the user. For example, it is disclosed in paragraphs [0197-0203] of the published specification US 2003/0037103 that the presence information comprises one or more presence attributes, the presence attributes may be classified as Reachability (in network coverage, GPRS attached, etc.), Availability (available for IM, in meeting, busy, etc.), Personal status (mood, etc.), Contact information (address, phone number, etc.), Location (user given location, geographic/network location), Client capabilities (image capable, audio capable, etc.) and Unknown (unknown class).

Therefore, at least some of the presence attributes are variables that indicate status of a user at the time the presence information is provided. The values of these dynamic attributes (*i.e.* the presence values) vary depending on the time the presence information is provided. The presence information management system of the present invention is configured to provide the dynamic status information of a requested user to a requesting user in a message (*i.e.* a primitive). Desai does not teach providing dynamic status information of a user. It only teaches providing static information of a user.

In order to distinguish the present invention from the prior art, the Applicant amended independent claims 22, 42 and 63 to specify that the presence information requested or the presence information supplied includes at least one presence value that is related to a dynamic status. Such amendment is made by adding a limitation "wherein the presence information comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes

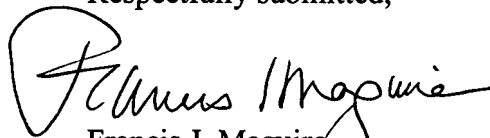
indicating presence status of a user or a client of the user at the time the presence information is provided."

It is believed that the amended independent claims distinguish the present invention with the cited reference. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims, and all dependent claims thereof, is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all of the claims of the application are in condition for allowance and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicant urges the Examiner to call the undersigned attorney to discuss the present response if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis J. Maguire", written over a circular flourish.

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